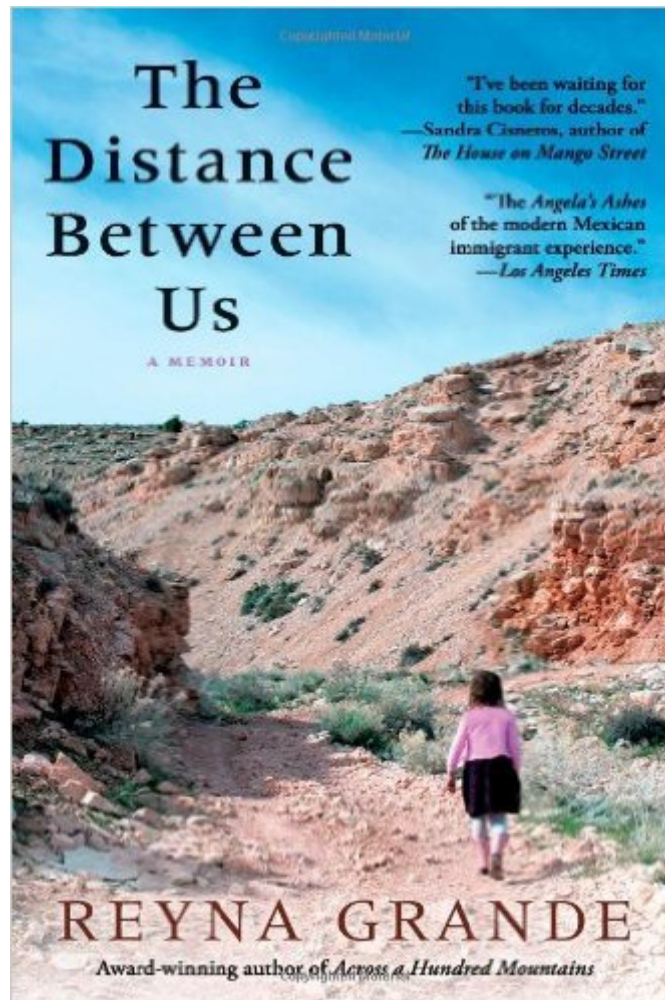


The book was found

# The Distance Between Us: A Memoir



## Synopsis

“A brutally honest book” akin to being the Angela’s Ashes of the modern Mexican immigrant experience • (Los Angeles Times). Reyna Grande vividly brings to life her tumultuous early years in this “compelling . . . unvarnished, resonant” • (BookPage) story of a childhood spent torn between two parents and two countries. As her parents make the dangerous trek across the Mexican border to “El Otro Lado” • (The Other Side) in pursuit of the American dream, Reyna and her siblings are forced into the already overburdened household of their stern grandmother. When their mother at last returns, Reyna prepares for her own journey to “El Otro Lado” • to live with the man who has haunted her imagination for years, her long-absent father. Funny, heartbreaking, and lyrical, *The Distance Between Us* poignantly captures the confusion and contradictions of childhood, reminding us that the joys and sorrows we experience are imprinted on the heart forever, calling out to us of those places we first called home.

## Book Information

Paperback: 352 pages

Publisher: Washington Square Press; 1 edition (March 12, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1451661789

ISBN-13: 978-1451661781

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.8 x 8.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars • See all reviews • (205 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #8,176 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #2 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Ethnic & National > Hispanic & Latino #14 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Professionals & Academics > Lawyers & Judges #52 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Arts & Literature > Authors

## Customer Reviews

"The Distance Between Us" may be the most important book you read this year. No matter what your politics are, the immigration debate is definitely one of the most, if not the absolute most, contentious issues of this tumultuous election season. It becomes easy after awhile to let the images of fences, government legislation, and faceless bigotry cloud our perspectives. Reyna Grande has provided us with a very personal narrative, one that puts a special "face" on the issue. The face belongs to little Reyna...a four year old resident of Iguala, Mexico, who is delegated

to the care of her paternal grandparents when her parents make the decision to flee (illegally) to "El Otro Lados" (The United States) to earn enough money to eventually return to Mexico and their children to build their "dream house." Reyna is the youngest of three, her older brother and sister provide much needed solace to Reyna during the ordeal, which lasts way, way too long. We follow the Grande children through their breathtaking struggle to cope with surviving the life of "little orphans" in Mexico and all the way through the difficult path that comes with the remainder of their childhood. All of it expressed through the musings of Reyna, or "Nena" as she is lovingly referred to by her "little mother", her sister, Mago. As memories perceived through the eyes of a child, become the reader's guide, the book takes us on an intimate tour of the Mexican immigrant's experience both left behind in Mexico and across the perilous border into El Otro Lados. This book is not as heavy on poetry, beautiful prose, and magical realism as many previous Latina/Chicana pieces of literature that I have read.

The Distance Between Us by Reyna Grande "The Distance Between" is the inspirational coming-of-age memoir that captures a girl's challenging journey to reach her dreams.

Award-winning writer Reyna Grande candidly shares her childhood that is reflective of the difficult challenges of the modern Mexican immigrant experience. This extraordinary woman shares her life with frankness and along the way provides a voice for many immigrants. This heart-warming 338-page book is broken out into the following two parts: 1. Mi Mamá; Me Ama, and The Man Behind The Glass. Positives: 1. A well-written, engaging, heartfelt coming-of-age memoir. Honest, personal storytelling. 2. A fascinating topic: the immigrant experience through the eyes of a Mexican girl. 3. The book has a very good flow. Grande is very descriptive and you never feel lost as a reader. It's her innate ability to tell a story and to adequately capture the emotions is what makes this reading experience very real. 4. A good story needs conflicts, challenges and this book is full of them. Some of the stories are gut wrenching and disturbing but ultimately heart-warming. 5. Touches on many topics of interest: poverty, immigration, politics, domestic abuse, alcoholism and education. These topics are not discussed as a separate issue but form part of the narrative. Grande asks big questions even as a little girl. 6. Thought-provoking. Some quotes will stick with you. 7. Family dynamics are very interesting. Growing up with very different grandmothers highlights how personalities impact a child. Parents leaving to "El Otro Lado" with the goal of providing for their families. Children desperately seeking role models and guidance. 8.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Distance Between Us: A Memoir The Distance Between Us The Brand Gap: How to Bridge the

Distance Between Business Strategy and Design The Shortest Distance Between You and Your New Product: How Innovators Use Rapid Learning Cycles to Get Their Best Ideas to Market Faster A Clearing In The Distance: Frederick Law Olmsted and America in the 19th Century Perspective Depth & Distance (Watercolour Painting Tips & Techniques) In Appropriate Distance: The Ethics of the Photographic Essay Spooky Action at a Distance: The Phenomenon That Reimagines Space and Time-and What It Means for Black Holes, the Big Bang, and Theories of Everything Twelve Views from the Distance Innovation in Open and Distance Learning: Successful Development of Online and Web-based Learning (Open and Flexible Learning Series) Long-Distance Pigeon Racing Culture and Online Learning: Global Perspectives and Research (Online Learning and Distance Education) The Long-Distance Dad: How You Can Be There for Your Child-Whether Divorced, Deployed, or On-the road. Cycling the Great Divide: From Canada to Mexico on America's Premier Long Distance Mountain Bike Route The Appalachian Trail, Step by Step: How to Prepare for a Thru or Long Distance Section Hike Todd Hido: Intimate Distance: Twenty-Five Years of Photographs, A Chronological Album Striking Distance: Bruce Lee and the Dawn of Martial Arts in America Between the Lines (Between the Lines #1) Between the Plums: Visions of Sugar Plums, Plum Lovin', and Plum lucky (Stephanie Plum: Between the Numbers) Between Breaths: A Memoir of Panic and Addiction

[Dmca](#)